

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

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FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7770

WHITE HOUSE WASHC IMMEDIATE

AMMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE 233

AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL RECIFE IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN DOMINGO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY

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USIA FOR IOP/M, IPS, IBS, ILA

STATE FOR ARA/PAF

LIMA FOR ROSALYNN CARTER'S PARTY

BRASILIA FOR NEWMAN (USIS) AND GIESE (POLITICAL)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, U.S., BR, XM

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION REPORT ON MRS. CARTER LATAM TOUR

1. SAO PAULO MEDIA GIVES SIZEABLE, PROMINENT COVERAGE TO ROSALYNN CARTER'S LATAM TOUR TODAY. TALKS WITH PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND WEEKEND REST IN PERU RECEIVED GOOD PLAY, BUT BULK OF STORIES AND COMMENTS DEAL WITH PROGRAM IN BRAZIL, STRESSING ALLEGED ATTITUDE OF "COLDNESS" ON PART OF GOB OFFICIALS (WHICH SOME OF THE PRESS SAY IS WRONG) AND IMPLICATIONS OF VISIT IN INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION.

2. SAMPLE HEADLINES: "MISTRUSTFUL, BRAZIL RECEIVES ROSALYNN CARTER" (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO); "AMENITIES IN ROSALYNN'S VISIT" AND "ROSALYNN HAPPY WITH VISIT TO PERU" (FOLHA DE SAO PAULO); "ROSALYNN RESTS IN THE ANDES" (DIARIO POPULAR).

3. O ESTADO'S LEAD EDITORIAL HEADED "MRS. CARTER'S VISIT" BEGINS: "ONE CANNOT DENY THAT MRS. CARTER'S VISIT TO BRAZIL IS A PLEASING INITIATIVE.....(HOWEVER), NO MATTER HOW WELL INFORMED SHE MAY BE, MRS. CARTER WILL LACK THE INDISPENSABLE EXPERIENCE TO NEGOTIATE WITH GOB AUTHORITES WHO HAVE A TRADITION OF NEGOTIATORS (SIC) WHICH DATES BACK TO IMPERIAL TIMES... A DIPLOMAT OF THE OLD SCHOOL WOULD SAY THAT MRS. ROSALYNN CARTER'S VISIT IS 'UNE DROLE DE VISITE', ESPECIALLY BECAUSE IT PRECEDES, BY A FEW WEEKS, THE FORMAL VISIT BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, WHO POSSIBLY IS AS LITTLE INFORMED ABOUT THE BRAZILIAN PROBLEMS AS IS HIS ILLUSTRIOUS PREDECESSOR (MRS. CARTER). ...WITHOUT A CORRECT VISION (OF SUCH PROBLEMS), HER VISIT IS UNLIKELY TO HAVE ANY PRACTICAL VALUE. WE FEAR THE WARM RECEPTION GIVEN MRS. CARTER MAY PRODUCE A WRONG UNCLASSIFIED

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IMPRESSION SINCE SHE ARRIVES IN THE MIDST OF A POLITICAL CRISIS.... THE FIRST LADY ALSO COMES TO INFORM BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES ABOUT 'EVENTS WHICH ARE NOT PUBLISHED IN THE PAPERS' ON THE U.S. POSITIONS ON CUBA AND PANAMA. THE SECRETARY OF STATE WILL COME LATER TO RESTABLISH THE FRIENDLY CLIMATE....AND POSSIBLY TO INCREASE PRESSURE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS....IT REMAINS FOR US TO WISH THAT THESE MISSIONS WILL IN FACT CONTRIBUTE TO THE RETURN OF THE BRAZIL-U.S. RELATIONS TO THE COURSE WHICH THEY NEVER SHOULD HAVE LEFT (BUT DID SO), THROUGH THE AMATEURISM OF SOME AND THE CLUMSY MACHIAVELISM OF OTHERS."

4. O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO CARRIES LONG COMMENTARY BY BRASILIA CORRESPONDENT CARLOS CONDE, HEADLINED "MISTRUSTFUL, BRAZIL RECEIVES ROSALYNN CARTER" (BANNER, INNER PAGE), "IN BRASILIA THERE IS AN ATNOSPHERE OF COLDNESS AWAITING (MRS. CARTER)....THE AZEREDO-VANCE MEETING IN PARSI WAS NOT ENOUGH TO ERASE ALL THE DOUBTS CONCERNING ROSALYNN CARTER'S COMING. THE OFFICIAL ARGUMENTS ARE TWO: 'THE HORIZONS BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND BRASILIA ARE NOT CLEAR ENOUGH YET' AND 'ROSALYNN CARTER IS NOT A USG

OFFICIAL AND THE FACT IS UNPLEASANT' '...."SEEN AS A DIPLOMATIC GESTURE, WE CAN'T SEE HOW MRS. CARTER'S VISIT CAN CAUSE SO MUCH DISCOMFORT.... CLEARLY THE INTENTION IS THAT HER TRIP IS NOT JUST PROTOCOL AS WAS PAT NIXON'S.... AS A GOOD POLITICIAN, CARTER KNOWS THAT HIS WIFE WILL BE LESS CONSTRAINED THAN A DIPLOMAT IN SAYING AND HEARING THINGS IN LATIN AMERICA...."

5. FOLHA DE SAO PAULO FRONT PAGE TEASER "AMENITIES IN ROSALYNN CARTER'S VISIT" REFERS TO INSIDE STORY TITLED "(GOB) DOES NOT SEE ROSALYNN AS U.S. SPOKESMAN," "IN THE EYES OF GOB AUTHORITIES, MRS. CARTER DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN INTERLOCUTOR WEIGHTY ENOUGH TO DEBATE THE MANY PROBLEMS IN BRAZIL-U.S. RELATIONS... IN BRASILIA'S POLITICAL CIRCLES, THE FACT IS ATTRIBUTED TO AN OLD CUSTOM: AMENITIES PREVAIL IN PROGRAMS FOR FEMALE REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER COUNTRIES. TODAMAN AND PASTOR WILL BE IN CHARGE OF THE REAL POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS."

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6. SAMUEL WAINER COMMENTING ON "ROSALYNN'S MESSAGE" IN FOLHA DE SAO PAULO SAYS: "ROSALYNN CARTER'S PRESENCE AMONG US MARKS THE CRUCIAL POINT REACHED IN BRAZILIAN-U.S. RELATIONS, IN FACT, IT SUGGESTS MUCH MORE A POLITICAL AUDITING THAN A COURTESY VISIT ... OUR REALITY IS QUITE DIFFERENT THAN THE ONE EXPRESSED BY THE CLICHE

'BRAZILIAN AFFAIRS ARE SOLVED BY BRAZILIANS' ... THE REALITY IS QUITE OTHERWISE... WAINER CONCLUDES: "(IN THE EARLY 40'S), AS TODAY, BRAZIL WAS STRUGGLING WITH A CONTRADICTION WHICH COULD NOT BE PROLONGED MUCH MORE: FIGHTING ABROAD FOR MAN'S FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, WHILE THE SAME FREEDOMS WERE DENIED TO THE BRAZILIAN PEOPLE.

7. TV COVERAGE: JUNE 4 PRIME TIME NEWSCASTS ON BANDEIRANTES NETWORK AND LOCAL ETV CULTURA QUOTED MRS. CARTER'S STATEMENT IN LIMA THAT "THE U.S. AND PERU HAVE REACHED IMPORTANT POINTS OF AGREEMENT REGARDING THE ARMS RACE ISSUE." TUPI NETWORK CARRIED 2-MINUTE FEATURE ON MRS. CARTER'S ROLE IN PRESIDENT'S POLITICAL CAREER AND HER SCHEDULE IN BRAZIL. BOTH TUPI AND BANDEIRANTES USED USIS FILM CLIPS INCLUDING INTERVIEW. BANDEIRANTES' NEWTON CARLOS QUOTED UNIDENTIFIED AMERICAN LATAM SPECIALIST SAYING LATAM LEADERS DO NOT APPRECIATE DISCUSSING SERIOUS BUSINESS WITH A WOMAN; SENDING HER (TO LATAM) DERIVES FROM AN IMPERIAL TRADITION. IT IS LIKE THE BRITISH QUEEN VISITING HER COLONIES AND PROTECTORATES, ON CEREMONIAL MISSIONS WITHOUT POLITICAL CONTENT." COPMAN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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